

***In the Claims***

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1        1.     [Currently amended] A method ~~for-for~~ for processing  
2        index numbers of accounts payable records from a plurality  
3        of accounts payable systems to identify duplicate records,  
4        comprising the steps of:

5            loading first records having an index number into a  
6            database from a plurality of accounts payable systems  
7            during a first predetermined time period;

8            for each record having said index number, searching  
9            said database for another record, loaded during a  
10          second earlier time period, having the same index  
11          number and replacing said another record, if found,  
12          with said first record;

13          comparing each first record for which no matching index  
14          number record was found with all other first records  
15          for which no matching index number record was found;

16          comparing each of said first records for which no

17           matching index number record was found with all the  
18           other records including the replaced records in said  
19           database;

20           generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports  
21           listing records which compared; and

22           eliminating from said database said first records  
23           deemed to have compared.

1       2.   [Original]   The method of claim 1, said records being  
2       invoice records.

3-5   [Canceled]

1       6.   [Previously presented] A method for providing a report  
2       that can be used to evaluate two or more invoiced documents  
3       for further investigation of possible duplicate invoicing,  
4       comprising the steps of:

5           maintaining a compact database by entering invoice data  
6           to said compact database from a plurality of accounts  
7           payable systems for payment at a later date and  
8           removing canceled invoice documents and invoice

9 documents older than a predetermined period;  
10 responsive to submission of an invoice with a null  
11 invoice indicia field entering date indicia in said  
12 null invoice indicia field;  
  
13 extracting data from said compact database by matching  
14 on suppliers invoice indicia, name, date and amount;  
  
15 checking said compact database for duplicate invoices  
16 before said later date; and  
  
17 producing said report from said data.

1 7. [Previously presented] Method for capturing packets of  
2 possible duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis,  
3 comprising the steps of:

4 preparing a set of invoices including all invoices from  
5 all of a plurality of accounts payable systems for  
6 different entities within an enterprise;

7 removing selected invoices from said set of invoices  
8 based upon first expert criteria to form an

9           investigative packet;

10           maintaining as a first subset of said investigative  
11           packet a collection of current invoices that have not  
12           yet been paid;

13           maintaining as a second subset of said investigative  
14           packet a collection of history invoices that have been  
15           paid;

16           generating based on second expert criteria from said  
17           current invoices and said history invoices a plurality  
18           of intermediate packets of invoices exhibiting a same  
19           behavior, each said intermediate packet including at  
20           least one invoice from said collection of current  
21           invoices;

22           dropping packets from said plurality of intermediate  
23           packets based on third expert criteria;

24           flagging invoices in remaining intermediate packets  
25           based on fourth expert criteria;

26           dropping from said remaining intermediate packets to

27           form a final set of packets invoices which have not  
28           been flagged; and

29           generating from said final set of packets a first  
30           report of invoices having same invoice numbers and  
31           vendor numbers, a second report of invoices having  
32           similar vendor names and same invoice amounts; a third  
33           report of invoices having similar invoice dates and  
34           invoice amounts differing only on flagged conditions; a  
35           fourth report of invoices having same invoice amounts  
36           and invoice numbers but not same date and vendor name;  
37           a fifth report of invoices having same invoice numbers  
38           and vendor names but not same vendor number and invoice  
39           amount; and a sixth report of invoices having same  
40           invoice numbers, vendor name and invoice amounts,  
41           irrespective of invoice date.

42       8.    [Original]   The method of claim 7, each invoice  
43       comprising a record including vendor identifier indicia,  
44       vendor record indicia, date indicia, and amount indicia.

1       9.    [Original]   The method of claim 8, each said record  
2       including a vendor record indicia field, a data indicia

3 field, and an amount indicia field.

1 10. [Original] The method of claim 9, further comprising  
2 the steps of:

3 flagging said invoices in said packet against each  
4 other with respect to expert criteria;

5 dropping from said packet unflagged invoices; and

6 discarding remaining packets having no current  
7 invoices.

1 11. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging record pairs having transposed digits  
3 in said vendor record indicia fields.

1 12. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step responsive to receiving an invoice with null vendor  
3 record indicia field of entering date indicia as date-like  
4 indicia to said vendor record indicia field.

1 13. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having a same vendor

3 identifier indicia and date-like indicia in said vendor  
4 indicia field.

1 14. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having matching vendor  
3 record indicia.

1 15. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having, for matching  
3 vendor identification indicia, matching vendor record  
4 indicia except for a prefix or suffix character.

1 16. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs, for matching vendor  
3 identification indicia, having vendor record indicia of  
4 different lengths.

1 17. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs matching on said vendor  
3 record indicia while ignoring embedded blanks.

1 18. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising  
2 the steps of:

3 flagging invoice pairs having transposed digits in said  
4 vendor record indicia fields;

5 flagging invoice pairs having a same vendor identifier  
6 indicia and date-like indicia in said vendor indicia  
7 field;

8 flagging invoice pairs having matching vendor record  
9 indicia;

10 flagging invoice pairs having, for matching vendor  
11 identification indicia, matching vendor record indicia  
12 except for a prefix or suffix character;

13 flagging invoice pairs, for matching vendor  
14 identification indicia, having vendor record indicia of  
15 different lengths; and

16 flagging invoice pairs matching on said vendor record  
17 indicia while ignoring embedded blanks.

1 19. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2 the step of forcing all said invoices to be current.



1     20. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2     the step of capturing packets having same vendor and invoice  
3     numbers.

1     21. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2     the step of capturing packets having similar vendor names  
3     and same invoice amount.

1     22. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2     the step of capturing packets having similar invoice dates  
3     and amounts, differing only on flagged conditions.

1     23. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2     the step of capturing packets having same invoice amount and  
3     numbers but not same date and vendor name.

1     24. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2     the step of capturing packets having same invoice number and  
3     vendor name but not same vendor number and invoice amount.

1     25. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising  
2     the step of capturing packets having the same vendor number  
3     and same invoice number and amount, irrespective of invoice  
4     date.

1     26. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable  
2     by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions  
3     executable by a machine to perform method steps for  
4     processing index numbers of accounts payable records from a  
5     plurality of accounts payable systems to identify duplicate  
6     records, said method steps comprising:

7             loading first records having an index number into a  
8             database during a first predetermined time period;

9             for each record having said index number, searching  
10            said database for another record, loaded during a  
11            second earlier time period, having the same index  
12            number and replacing said another record, if found,  
13            with said first record;

14            comparing each first record for which no matching index  
15            number record was found with all other first records  
16            for which no matching index number invoice was found;

17            comparing each of said first invoices for which no  
18            matching index number record was found with all the  
19            other records including the replaced records in said

20           database;

21           generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports

22           listing records which compared; and

23           eliminating from said database said first records

24           deemed to have compared.

1       27. [Previously presented] A program storage device

2       readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of

3       instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps

4       for providing a report that can be used to evaluate two or

5       more invoiced documents for further investigation of

6       possible duplicate invoicing, said method steps comprising:

7           maintaining a compact database by removing canceled

8           invoice documents and invoice documents older than a

9           predetermined period;

10          responsive to submission of an invoice with a null

11          invoice indicia field entering date indicia in said

12          null invoice indicia field;

13          extracting data from said compact database by matching

14 on suppliers invoice indicia, name, date and amount;  
15 and

16 producing said report from said data.

1 28. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable  
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions  
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for  
4 capturing packets of possible duplicate invoices for  
5 duplicate invoice analysis, said method steps comprising:

6 preparing a set of invoices including all invoices from  
7 all ~~from all~~ of a plurality of accounts payable systems  
8 for different entities within an enterprise;

9 removing selected invoices from said set of invoices  
10 based upon first expert criteria to form an  
11 investigative packet;

12 maintaining as a first subset of said investigative  
13 packet a collection of current invoices that have not  
14 yet been paid;

15 maintaining as a second subset of said investigative

16 packet a collection of history invoices that have been  
17 paid;

18 generating based on second expert criteria from said  
19 current invoices and said history invoices a plurality  
20 of intermediate packets of invoices exhibiting a same  
21 behavior, each said intermediate packet including at  
22 least one invoice from said collection of current  
23 invoices;

24 dropping packets from said plurality of intermediate  
25 packets based on third expert criteria;

26 flagging invoices in remaining intermediate packets  
27 based on fourth expert criteria; and

28 dropping from said remaining intermediate packets to  
29 form a final set of packets invoices which have not  
30 been flagged.

1 29. [Currently amended] A system for capturing packets of  
2 possible duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis,  
3 comprising:

4 a set of invoices including all invoices from all of a  
5 plurality of accounts payable systems of an enterprise;

6 an investigative packet formed by removing selected  
7 invoices from said set of invoices based upon first  
8 expert criteria;

9 a first subset of said investigative packet including a  
10 current file of invoices that have not yet been paid;

11 a second subset of said investigative packet including  
12 a history file of invoices that have been paid; and

13 a plurality of intermediate packets of invoices  
14 generated based on second expert criteria from said  
15 first and second subsets for storing invoices  
16 exhibiting a same behavior, said packet including at  
17 least one invoice ~~from said of~~ from said current file;  
18 and

19 a plurality of reports generated from a plurality of  
20 said packets including a first report of invoices  
21 having same invoice numbers and vendor numbers, a  
22 second report of invoices having similar vendor names

23           and same invoice amounts; a third report of invoices  
24           having similar invoice dates and invoice amounts  
25           differing only on flagged conditions; a fourth report  
26           of invoices having same invoice amounts and invoice  
27           numbers but not same date and vendor name; a fifth  
28           report of invoices having same invoice numbers and  
29           vendor names but not same vendor number and invoice  
30           amount; and a sixth report of invoices having same  
31           invoice numbers, vendor name and invoice amounts,  
32           irrespective of invoice date.

33       30. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
34       containing invoices having same vendor and invoice numbers.

1       31. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2       containing invoices having similar vendor names and same  
3       invoice amount.

1       32. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2       containing invoices having similar invoice dates and  
3       amounts, differing only on flagged conditions.

1       33. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2       containing invoices having same invoice amount and numbers

3 but not same date and vendor name.

1 34. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2 containing invoices having same invoice number and vendor  
3 name but not same vendor number and invoice amount.

1 35. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet  
2 containing invoices having the same vendor number and same  
3 invoice number and amount, irrespective of invoice date.

1 36. [Previously presented] A computer program product or  
2 computer program element for processing index numbers of  
3 accounts payable records from a plurality of accounts  
4 payable systems to identify duplicate records according to  
5 method steps comprising:

6 loading first records having an index number into a  
7 database during a first predetermined time period;

8 for each record having said index number, searching  
9 said database for another record, loaded during a  
10 second earlier time period, having the same index  
11 number and replacing said another record, if found,  
12 with said first record;



13 comparing each first record for which no matching index  
14 number record was found with all other first records  
15 for which no matching index number invoice was found;

16 comparing each of said first invoices for which no  
17 matching index number record was found with all the  
18 other records including the replaced records in said  
19 database;

20 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports  
21 listing records which compared; and

22 eliminating from said database said first records  
23 deemed to have compared.

1 37. [Previously presented] A computer program product or  
2 computer program element for capturing packets of possible  
3 duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis according  
4 to method steps comprising:

5 preparing a set of invoices including all invoices from  
6 all of a plurality of accounts payable systems for  
7 different entities within an enterprise;

8 removing selected invoices from said set of invoices  
9 based upon first expert criteria to form an  
10 investigative packet;

11 maintaining as a first subset of said investigative  
12 packet a collection of current invoices that have not  
13 yet been paid;

14 maintaining as a second subset of said investigative  
15 packet a collection of history invoices that have been  
16 paid;

17 generating based on second expert criteria from said  
18 current invoices and said history invoices a plurality  
19 of intermediate packets of invoices exhibiting a same  
20 behavior, each said intermediate packet including at  
21 least one invoice from said collection of current  
22 invoices;

23 dropping packets from said plurality of intermediate  
24 packets based on third expert criteria;

25 flagging invoices in remaining intermediate packets  
26 based on fourth expert criteria; and

27           dropping invoices which have not been flagged from said  
28           remaining intermediate packets to form a final set of  
29           packets.